

SHELLFISH COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

City of Norwalk
Shellfish Commission Meeting
June 5th, 2008

CALL TO ORDER 7:00 PM

ATTENDANCE

Commission: Jack Casagrande, Pete Johnson, Dr. Frank Serena, John Frank

Staff: Tom Closter

Police: Sgt Peter LaPak

Advisory: Harbormaster Mike Griffin

Guest: Tim Pramer, Bud Raleigh

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

Approved with no corrections by Comm. Johnson, 2nd by Comm. Casagrande

TREASURER

Comm. Johnson reports:

NAME DATE AMOUNT REASON

BALANCE 3-31-08 \$6,855.48

DEPOSIT interest March \$23.00

Norm Bloom 4-1-08 \$500.00 permits

Bell's Shellfish 4-1-08 \$100.00 permit

A.C.Stabell & Sons 4-1-08 \$100.00 permit

EXPENSE AT&T (phone Co) Two months (\$139.93)

Police OT 4-7-08 (\$117.19)

Norwest Marine (\$248.88)

BALANCE 4-30-08 \$7,072.48

DEPOSIT interest April \$22.00

Fishermen's world 5-28-08 \$918.00 permits

Pramer Oyster Co 5-28-08 \$90.00 product

EXPENSE

AT&T (phone Co) Two months (\$136.22)

BALANCE 5-31-08 \$7,966.26

BALANCE a year ago 5-31-07 \$22,942.91

BALANCE two years ago 5-31-06 \$20,012.47

SECRETARY

Comm. Frank reports:

Wilson Cove Marina has applied for COP permit for maintenance dredging. Of section of the marina Basin at the north end of Wilson Cove (120 Wilson Ave) With the usual safeguards as conditions of the permit, no damage to shellfish resources is anticipated. Discussed. Comment will be sent to DEP.

M. Ridgeway Barker has applied for COP permit to repair existing stone and cement seawall at 55 Rowayton Ave. Application actually calls for constructing NEW poured reinforced concrete seawall waterward of existing seawall, anchored to bedrock exposed
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by excavating natural shellfish bed some distance waterward of existing seawall. Discussion focused on further incursion waterward onto shellfish bed and excavation of shellfish bed to bedrock. Commission decided comments should be sent, expressing these concerns.

Rowayton Seafood restaurant has applied for permit to allow the use of an existing deck as part of their restaurant operation, and for public access. No impact on shellfish resources is anticipated. A next door neighbor has made a detailed complaint of zoning, health, noise, and parking violations. Mr. Closter reports health dept. investigation have not found reported violations. Zoning, parking, and noise violations are outside our purview. There was limited discussion.

23 Platt St, Oyster Bend Marina & Condominiums is building more condominium apartments and has discovered quantity of buried barrels and contaminants in soil. Owner has applied for engineered control variance of site cleanup requirements and a public information meeting is scheduled for June 30th. All proposed work is on upland. Commission concern is harmful chemicals leaching into river and to shellfish. Available documents are being reviewed by chair. Discussion focused on available testing results adjacent to property. Harbormaster Griffin pointed out that application for maintenance dredging had been made for the Marina and test results had shown real problems, making material to be dredged totally unsuitable for in-water disposal, under any circumstance. Chair will get those results. Commission will not object to further construction on site, but will have comment on cleanup.

COMMITTEES

HEALTH DEPT

Mr. Closter reports:

3.37 inches of rain in May vs. 1.50 last year and average since 1987 of 3.13 inches. Total rain for 2008 is 19.47 inches vs. yearly average since 1987 of 52.45. There were 547 calls in May vs. 629 in May, 2007.

There was a partial closure in the CAA area for over 1/2 inch of rain from 4/30/08 through 5/31/08. There was a complete closure from 4/30/08 to 5/08/08. There were four notices of spills reported, all contained.

5-2-08 2 Gallons Yankee Doodle Garage 5 Minutes

5-12-08 50 Gallons Treatment Plant 10 Minutes

5-13-08 150 Gallons 50 East Rocks Rd 20 Minutes

5-27-8 100 Gallons Stew Leonard's 20 Minutes

WASTEWATER TREATMENT

Comm. Johnson reports ODOR has returned, confirmed by several others. Discussion centered around change in wind patterns in warmer weather and possible changes in operations at treatment plant. Odor control chemical being used seemed to be effective. Chair will inquire.

WATER QUALITY

Harbormaster Griffin reports Water Quality Interns are on board. Other concerns have been discussed in earlier reports of ODOR and cleanup at Oyster bend

PERMITS

Mr. Casagrande has no report, expects permit sales will be strong as weather gets

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warmer, will report next month.

POLICE

Sgt LaPak reports for May 20 hrs patrol, no arrests. Four officers, including Sgt LaPak, now assigned

ADVISORY

Mr. Pramer reports water temperature is over 60o F.

HARBOR MANAGEMENT

Harbormaster Mike Griffin reports testing on material from North Cove has been done and material is approved for capping our dredged materials.

Durocher marine has finished all work inside Norwalk Harbor and out to State line. A survey boat is working, presumably to prepare as-built survey, required by permits. Large anchors have been removed. Dredging costs increasing with fuel prices, funding has not.

Motion by Mr. Johnson, 2nd by Dr. Serena to accept committee reports.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Comm. Casagrande asks about transplant before July 4th. Comm. Johnson will talk to Norm Bloom who has expressed support for transplant. Mr. Pramer reports his small boat is disabled.

NEXT MEETING

Thursday July 10th (moved from July 3rd because of conflict with holiday, Mr. Closter will notify town clerk)

MOTION TO ADJOURN

At 8:14PM by Dr. Serena, 2nd by Mr. Johnson

Minutes by Comm. Frank

